container, the first and second portions of the mold being separable along a part line corresponding to the outermost extent of the ridge of the container, the third portion defining a surface corresponding to the base of the container;

(b) positioning a heated sheet of thermoplastic material over the mold;

(c) drawing the heated sheet of thermosplastic material over the upper lip of the mold and down into the cavity and into the undercut portion of the mold;

(d) allowing the sheet of thermoplastic material to cool below its glass transition temperature to assure that it will retain its shape;

(e) cutting the thermoplastic material along the upper lip of the mold to separate the drawn thermoplastic material in the mold cavity from the remainder of the thermoplastic material, the separated, drawn thermoplastic material constituting the thermoformed container;

(f) separating the first and second portions of the mold; and

(g) removing the thermoformed container from the second and third portions of the mold.--

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the above-identified patent application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

For purposes of this communication, only a brief comment will be made as to the prior art of record in the parent case. A feature of the invention is that it enables the thermoforming of containers having an outwardly-extending ridge and an inwardly-facing cut lip. This is accomplished by splitting the mold along a line corresponding to the outwardly-extending ridge. As a result, the formed container can be removed by first